What is Claimed is:

1. A method of treating a patient to alleviate pain, comprising: administering systemically an amount of noribogaine to said patient effective to reduce or eliminate pain in said patient

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said patient is administered a pharmaceutical composition comprising said noribogaine and wherein said noribogaine is the sole analgesic agent in said pharmaceutical composition.

3. A method of alleviating pain in a patient for whom opioid analgesics are contraindicated, comprising: administering systemically an amount of noribogaine to said patient effective to reduce or eliminate pain in said patient in the absence of any concomitant opioid analgesic therapy.

4. The method of any one of claims 1-3, wherein said noribogaine is administered to said patient at a dose of between 0.1 mg and 100 mg per kg of body weight.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein said noribogaine is administered at a dose of between 1.0 mg and 30 mg per kg of body weight.

6. A method of treating a patient to alleviate pain, comprising:
   a) administering systemically to said patient an amount of noribogaine; and
   b) concomitantly administering systemically to said patient an amount of one or more opioid antagonists;

   wherein said respective amounts of noribogaine and said one or more opioid antagonists are effective to reduce or eliminate pain in said patient.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said opioid antagonist is naloxone, administered to said patient at a dose of between 0.05 mg and 0.5 mg for each mg of noribogaine.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said opioid antagonist is naltrexone, administered to said patient at a dose of between 0.05 mg and 0.5 mg for each mg of noribogaine.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein said noribogaine and said opioid antagonist are administered transdermally.

10. A method of treating a patient for drug dependence or abuse during withdrawal therapy which comprises: administering systemically an amount of noribogaine to said patient effective to reduce one or more symptoms of drug withdrawal.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said patient is treated for addiction to a narcotic.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said patient is treated for addiction to a drug selected from the group consisting of: cocaine, heroin, alcohol, methadone, amphetamines and combinations thereof.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said noribogaine is administered at a dose of between 0.1 mg and 100 mg per kg of body weight.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said noribogaine is administered at a dosage of between 1.0 mg and 30 mg per kg of body weight.

15. The method of claim 10, further comprising administering an opioid antagonist to said patient.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said opioid antagonist is naloxone, administered to said patient at a dose of between 0.05 mg and 0.5 mg per mg of noribogaine administered to said patient.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said opioid antagonist is naltrexone administered at a dose of between 0.05 mg and 0.5 mg per mg of noribogaine administered to said patient.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein said noribogaine and said opioid antagonist are administered transdermally.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
    a) noribogaine; and
    b) one or more opioid antagonists.

20. The pharmaceutical compositon of claim 19, wherein said composition is in unit dose form and wherein one or more of said unit doses provide an amount of said noribogaine and an amount of said one or more opioid antagonists effective to treat drug dependency, or drug abuse, or to produce analgesia in a patient to whom said unit dose or unit doses are administered.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of either claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said noribogaine is present at a concentration of between 0.1 mg/ml and 20 mg/ml.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of either claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said opioid antagonist is naloxone present at 0.05 mg to 0.5 mg for each mg of noribogaine.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of either claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said opioid antagonist is naltrexone present at 0.05 mg to 0.5 mg for each mg of noribogaine.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of either claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is formulated for transdermal delivery.